



For Immediate Release
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ADOT adds business ombudsman to construction communications efforts

PHOENIX – For construction of the interim Wickenburg Bypass, Jim Lewin will be the man-on-the-street, working to better connect the Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT), businesses and the project's contractor. Lewin has recently been added to the project team by ADOT specifically to serve as a business ombudsman.

Lewin of Lewin and Associates, LLC begun visiting Wickenburg business owners last week to better understand concerns, offer information about the U.S. 60/93 construction project and work with ADOT's project team to address any issues.

The addition of Lewin to the project team expands ADOT's extensive communication efforts, launched in December as part of the project partnering process. As a result of that partnership meeting, ADOT formed a communications committee made up of Kevin Cloe, publisher of the; Gary Edwards, Wickenburg town manager; Julie Brooks, executive director of the Chamber of Commerce; Bill Williams, ADOT public information officer and other members of the project team.

ADOT, through the communication committee, has been sending construction alerts to residents, business owners and community leaders in Wickenburg and supplying information to Arizona media, along with state and national motor cargo associations.

Construction began in February on a nearly 2-mile section of U.S. 60 and U.S. 93, and will consist of: replacement of existing bridges over the Hassayampa River and construction of a new bridge over Sols Wash, sidewalks and roadway lighting, drainage structures, erosion control and landscaping and construction of two roundabouts. Markham Contracting Company is the contractor for this two-year project. The improvements, funded by the voter-approved Regional Transportation Plan for Maricopa County, will relieve congestion, improve traffic flow and reduce noise in downtown Wickenburg.